

REMARKS

In the Office Action, claims 1, 3, 25-26 and 39-40 were rejected under 35 USC section 103(a) as being unpatentable over König German patent document 19700330 in view of Yenglin et al. US patent 6,056,376. Claims 4-6, 9-10, 27, 30-32, 34, 41 and 44-45 were rejected under 35 USC section 103(a) as being unpatentable over König and Yenglin et al., and further in view of Sells et al. US patent 4,868,975. Claims 7, 8 and 46 were rejected under 35 USC section 103(a) as being unpatentable over König, Yenglin et al. and Sells et al., and further in view of Lavin et al. US patent 3,495,717. Claims 11-12 were rejected under 35 USC section 103(a) as being unpatentable over König, Yenglin et al. and Sells et al., and further in view of Bentley US patent 5,271,174. Claim 13 was rejected under 35 USC section 103(a) as being unpatentable over König and Yenglin et al., and further in view of Fildes US patent 1,811,312.

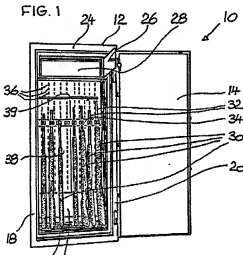
By this response, the claims have been amended in a manner believed to patentably define over the references.

Claim 1 has been amended to state that the cabinet comprises a back wall, a pair of side walls, a top wall and bottom wall which cooperate to define an interior that is accessible through an open front area. The door arrangement is defined as being interconnected with the cabinet for movement between an open position providing access to the cabinet interior through the open front area, and a closed position preventing access to the cabinet interior through the open front area. The door arrangement is specified as including a pair of folding door sections configured for movement to a retracted position within the interior of the cabinet when the door arrangement is in the open position. Claim 1 is amended to state that each of the folding door sections comprises an inner door section pivotably interconnected with an outer door section. The inner door sections are defined as being located adjacent each other when the door arrangement is in the closed position. Claim 1 is further amended to call for a guide arrangement on the

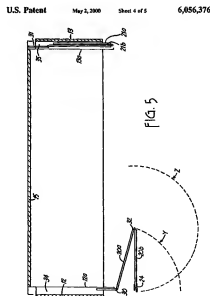
cabinet. The guide arrangement is defined as being engaged with each inner door section, and the guide arrangement and the inner door sections are defined as being configured to maintain engagement of each inner door section with the cabinet during movement each inner door section when the door arrangement is moved between the open and closed positions. Claim 1 also calls for a plurality of differently configured storage modules adapted to be mounted within the cabinet interior. Claim 1 is amended to state that the storage modules and the cabinet are configured to accommodate movement of the door sections to the retracted position within the interior of the cabinet and the storage modules are mounted within the cabinet interior.

The combination of König and Yenglin et al. is not seen to show or suggest the subject matter of amended claim 1.

As shown in the drawing figure below, König teaches a gun cabinet having a single door mounted to an edge of the cabinet by a set of hinges. The single door is carried by the hinges such that the door can be swung to an open position, or swung to a closed position. When in the open position, the door is swung away from the interior of the cabinet and is thus external to the interior of the cabinet.



The Yenglin et al. reference discloses a cabinet with a retracting door arrangement. As shown in the drawing figure reproduced below, the door arrangement of Yenglin et al. is constructed such that the panel 20b is pivoted about hinge 32 away from the cabinet so as to rest flat against panel 20a. The panel 20a is then pivoted about hinge 30, so that the panels 20a and 20b can be moved into a side area within the interior of the cabinet.



The combination of König and Yenglin et al. yields a cabinet having a folding door arrangement in which the inner door panel is completely disengaged from the cabinet and is moved against the outer door panel, so that the inner and outer panels together can be moved into a side area within the interior of the cabinet. This is in direct contrast to the present invention as disclosed and as claimed in amended claim 1, which calls for a guide arrangement on the cabinet which is engaged with each inner door

section, with the guide arrangement and the inner door sections being configured to maintain engagement of each inner door section with the cabinet during movement of each inner door section when the door arrangement is moved between the open and closed positions. This construction provides controlled movement of the door as the door sections are moved between the open and closed positions, which is not shown or suggested by the combination of König and Yenglin et al.

Furthermore, the combination of König and Yenglin et al. does not show or suggest a cabinet configuration in which the storage modules and the cabinet are configured to accommodate movement of the door sections to the retracted position within the interior of the cabinet and the storage modules are mounted within the cabinet interior. In König, and the various storage components are against the side walls of the cabinet. Yenglin et al. contains no showing or suggestion of any storage modules whatsoever, let alone the manner in which storage modules can be mounted in the interior of a cabinet to accommodate movement of retractable door sections into the interior of the cabinet.

For the above reasons, amended claim 1 is believed to patentably define over König and Yenglin et al. Claims 3-13 and 51 depend directly or indirectly from claim 1, and are believed allowable for the above reasons as well as in view of the subject matter of each claim.

Independent claims 25 and 39 have been amended along the same lines as claim 1. For the reasons noted above with respect to claim 1, it is believed that claims 25 and 39 also patentably define over König and Yenglin et al., and are allowable along with dependent claims 26-27, 30-32, 34 and 52 (which depend from claim 25) and claims 40-41, 44-46 and 53 (which depend from claim 39).

Applicant's attorney has made every effort to place the application into condition for allowance with claims 1, 3-13, 25-27, 30-32, 34, 39-41, 44-46 and 51-53, and such action is earnestly requested.

The Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned by phone if questions remain after consideration of this response, or if such would otherwise facilitate prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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